

MENV 2026 CAPSTONE SYMPOSIUM PROGRAM



Masters of the Environment
University of Colorado **Boulder**

October 30th, 2026
8:00am - 12:30pm MT

SEEC Building
4001 Discovery Drive
Boulder, CO 80303

In Person or Virtual

[Register Here](#)



EVENT SCHEDULE

Time	Activity	Location
8:00 - 8:45am	Breakfast and Check-In	SEEC Atrium
8:45 - 9:45am	Opening Session: Keynotes, Awards, and Lightning talks	C120
10:00 - 10:30am	Session 1	All rooms*
10:30 - 11:00am	Session 2	All rooms*
11:00 - 11:30am	Session 3	All rooms*
11:30am - 12:00pm	Session 4	All rooms*
12:00 - 12:30pm	Session 5	All rooms*

Sessions 1-5: 30 minutes each

15 Minutes - Student Presentation

8 Minutes - Q&A

7 Minutes - Transition

*C120, C120A, C120B, N126, S372

ERIN SPRAGUE

CEO of Protect Our Winters (POW)

Keynote Speaker

Erin Sprague is the CEO of Protect our Winters (POW), where she leads the outdoor community in climate action. Previously, Erin led outdoor companies as the **Chief Brand Officer at Aspen Skiing Company; VP of Marketing at Sir Richard Branson's Virgin Sport; and Global Head of Women's Brand and Product at Specialized Bicycles.** Erin has also worked with teams from Google and Nest to build climate tech start-ups tackling food waste and heat pump adoption. Erin started her career in finance and public affairs at The Blackstone Group, and graduated from the Stanford Graduate School of Business and Harvard College. Erin grew up running, skiing, and hiking in the Adirondacks. She previously Chaired the Board of POW and started a non-profit to support youth fitness initiatives while setting a World Record as the Youngest Woman to Run a Marathon on all Seven Continents and racing a bicycle across Africa.



She is currently running marathons slowly across all 50 states. She lives in Boulder, CO with her husband and two daughters, who are already beating her down most mountains.

ANDREW MAYOCK

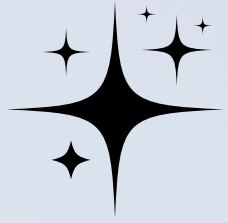
CU Boulder Vice Chancellor for Sustainability

Keynote Speaker

Andrew Mayock is the University of Colorado Boulder's Vice Chancellor for Sustainability. In the inaugural position, Mayock is charged with establishing a university-wide sustainability leadership role, forming solid partnerships with faculty, positioning CU Boulder as a national and global sustainability leader, directly assisting local communities to make Colorado the most sustainable state in the U.S., and funding priority sustainability initiatives through internal and external sources. Formerly the **Chief Sustainability Officer of the U.S. Government**, Mayock led President Biden's sustainability agenda. In that role, Andrew focused on electrifying the government's 640,000 cars and trucks and 300,000 buildings and powering them with clean energy; making the government's supply chain more climate-smart and resilient; and increasing climate impact through domestic and international public and private sector partnerships.



Andrew received a bachelor's degree from the University of Illinois, law degree from The George Washington University Law School, and a masters in public administration from the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University.



2026 MENV Capstone Partner Recognition Award



GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF CLIMATE PREPAREDNESS AND DISASTER RECOVERY

Established in 2022, the **Governor's Office of Climate Preparedness and Disaster Recovery (CPO)** represents a forward-thinking commitment to understanding and adapting to Colorado's future climate conditions. The office leads the development, publication, and implementation of Colorado's Climate Preparedness Roadmap—a strategic guiding document that uses the best available science and data to prioritize climate adaptation actions across Colorado's state government and identify achievable near-term next steps.

MENV is recognizing CPO as a committed Capstone Partner who brings innovative applied projects with real impact for Colorado communities while supporting student leadership and skill development. CPO has been a Capstone Partner on six projects since 2023 in collaboration with other agencies including Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, Colorado Department of Labor, Colorado State Forest Service, and Colorado Department of Corrections.



COLORADO

Governor Jared Polis

Office of Climate Preparedness
and Disaster Recovery

Jonathan Asher

Director

Carolina Van Horn

Deputy Director for
Disaster Recovery

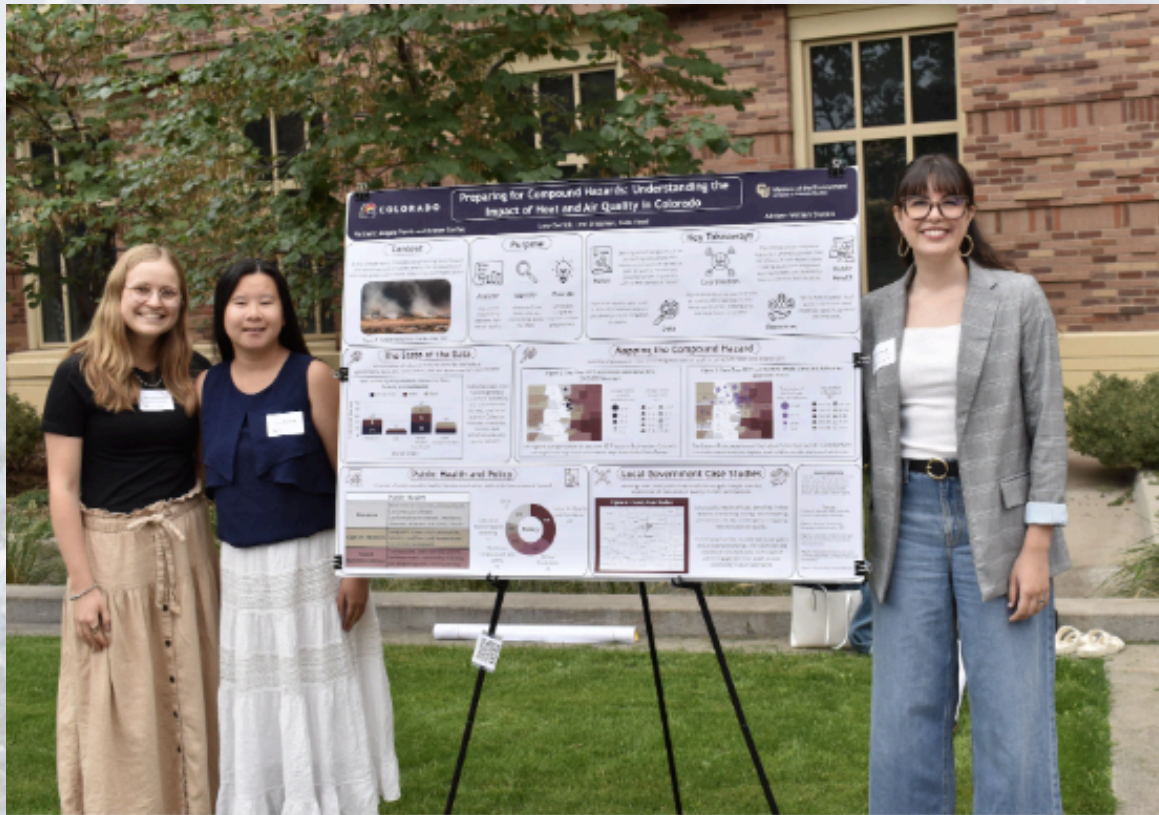
Abigale Purvis

Climate Preparedness
Manager

Lightning Talk

Preparing for Compound Hazards: Understanding the Impact of Heat and Air Quality

Lexi Dressman, Lucy Derrick, Kaila Hood

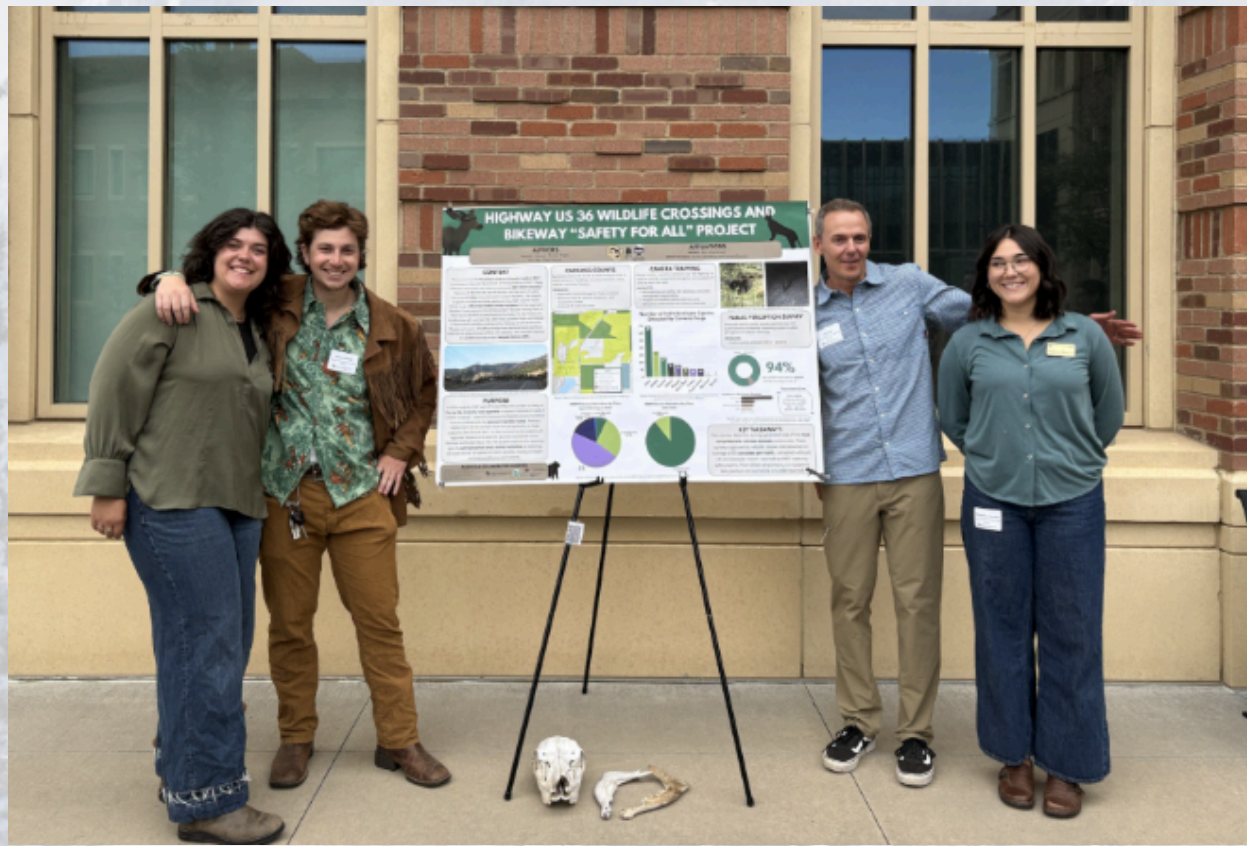


**COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT (CDPHE)
& GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF CLIMATE PREPAREDNESS AND DISASTER RECOVERY**

Lightning Talk

Highway US36 Wildlife Crossings and Bikeway “Safety for All” Project

Emma Tingle, Eitan Palmer, Eric Dec, Natalie Hansen



BOULDER COUNTY PARKS AND OPEN SPACE

Lightning Talk

Economic Diversification in Coal Transition Communities

Peter Landis, Alec Waz, Norman Kalen, Alex Rudawsky



OFFICE OF ECONOMIC DIVERSITY AND INTERNATIONAL TRADE

SCHEDULE BY ROOM

Room*	C120 A	C120	C120 B	N126	S372
Theme	Cultivating Community Capacity	Powering the Future	Protecting Land and Water	Shaping Climate Resilience	Navigating Rural Transitions
10:00-10:30am	SustainEd Farms	Invenergy	Ocean First Institute	Sustainable Energy Utility Team of Empower Our Future	Mountain Towns 2030
10:30-11:00am	Colorado State Forest Service and CPO	OneEnergy Renewables	St. Vrain and Left Hand Water Conservancy District	City of Lafayette	Office of Economic Development and International Trade
11:00-11:30am	Sun Valley Food Forest and Urban Farms	McKinstry	Boulder County Parks & Open Space	Town of Erie	Cloud City Conservation Center
11:30am - 12:00pm	Resource Central	Leitner-Poma of America	Aspen Global Change Institute	Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment & CPO	Town of Keystone
12:00pm-12:30pm	Group14 Engineering	City of Moab	The Conservation Alliance	Denver Department of Climate Action, Sustainability and Resiliency	Town of Nederland

***Maps to find these rooms in SEEC are at the end of this program.**

SESSION 1

10:00AM - 10:30AM

C120 A

SustainEd Farms

**Ashley Hopfer, Jacob Meltzer,
Camille Britt**

Developing Impact Evaluation
for School Garden
Organizations

Advised by: Mara Rose

C120

Invenergy

**Ben Leonard, Nick Condra,
Tyler McDonough**

The Next Phase of Renewable
Development

Advised by: Brian Kennedy

C120 B

Ocean First Institute

Augustus Hoff, Sydney Eckert

Shark Conservatio and Policy:
Increasing Conservation Outcomes
through Integrated Policy Analysis,
Research, and Science
Communication

Advised by: Meghan McCarroll

N126

Sustainable Energy Utility Team of Empower Our Future

**Jerry Freetly, Jack Meyer,
Blake Fields**

Advancing Energy Resilience in
Boulder: Assessing Implementation
Gaps and Potential Delivery Models

Advised by: Gregor MacGregor

S372

Mountain Towns 2030

**Rose Hickey, Maria Bays,
Michael Moench, Valeria Mauer**

MT 2030 Solutions Framework:
Communities Working Together
Towards a Net Zero Goal

Advised by: Alice Reznickova

SESSION 2

10:30AM - 11:00AM

C120 A

Colorado State Forest Service and CPO

**Madeleine Alberdi, Madeline
Maurer, Morning Glory Farr**

Tree by Tree: Growing Future
ReadyCommunities Through
Nature-Based Solutions

Advised by: Christine Ageton

C120

OneEnergy Renewables

**Sawyer Kennell, Emily Boyle,
Alec Lavender**

Battery Energy Storage
System Development Strategy

Advised by: Taber Ward

C120 B

St. Vrain and Left Hand Water Conservancy District

Shadia Nagati, Jessica Reid

Environmental Flow Survey for St.
Vrain Creek

Advised by: Meghan McCarroll

N126

City of Lafayette

**Wren Bandrowski, Jasmine
Cassidy, Elizabeth Jordan**

City of Lafayette Neighborhood
Resilience Toolkit

Advised by: Maria McDonald

S372

Office of Economic Development and International Trade

**Norman Kalen, Alex Rudawsky,
Peter Landis, Alec Waz**

Economic Diversification in
Coal Transition Communities

Advised by: Alice Reznickova

SESSION 3

11:00AM - 11:30AM

C120 A

Sun Valley Food Forest and Urban Farms

**Cami Cuebas, Mary Kelly,
Megan Hazen**

Sun Valley Feeding Sun Valley

Advised by: Damien Thompson

C120

McKinstry

**Radhika Duke, Naomi
Jepkemei, Will Callahan**

Project Health Tracking: A
Centralized Dashboard for
Commercial & Industrial Solar
Development

Advised by: Brian Kennedy

C120 B

Boulder County Parks & Open Space

**Eric Dec, Eitan Palmer, Emma
Tingle, Natalie Hansen**

Highway US36 Wildlife
Crossings and Bikeway "Safety
for All" Project

Advised by: Kelly MacGregor

N126

Town of Erie

Tanya Masnyk, Anna Stofft

Town of Erie Resilience Action
Plan Implementation Phase I

Advised by: William Shutkin

S372

Cloud City Conservation Center

**Madisen Riebock, Libby
Caldwell**

Making the Economic Case for
Sustainability

Advised by: Taber Ward

SESSION 4

11:30AM - 12:00PM

C120 A

Resource Central

**Chase Janis, Olivia Barr,
Nicholas Lannutti**

Pollinators & Waterwise Landscapes:
Exploring the Link Between Habitat and
Conservation in Colorado

Advised by: Meghan McCarroll

C120

Leitner-Poma of Americas

**Mathieu Agee, James Volk,
Olivia Yuan**

GHG Inventory and Reporting
Toolkit: Building Leitner-
Poma's Foundation to
Emissions Tracking

Advised by: Derek Fehrer

C120 B

Aspen Global Change Institute

**Daisy Ranney Smith, Riley
Hammond, Billy Hoffmann**

Boundary Organization and Private
Sector Perspectives on Decision
Making at the Fire-Water Nexus

Advised by: Gregor MacGregor

N126

CDPHE and CPO

**Lexi Dressman, Kaila Hood,
Lucy Derrick**

Preparing for Compound Hazards:
Understanding the Impact of Heat and
Air Quality in Colorado

Advised by: William Shutkin

S372

Town of Keystone

**Sage Phelps-Fast, Emily
Rollender, Kaila Red Bow,
Morgan Sylvester**

More Than a Sign: Connecting
People, Trails & Place

Advised by: Christine Ageton

SESSION 5

12:00PM - 12:30PM

C120 A

Group14 Engineering

**Amanda Smith, Tovia Rosner,
Morgan Salzsieder**

Closing the Gap: Integrating
Resiliency into Colorado's Affordable
Housing

Advised by: Karen Bailey

C120

City of Moab

**Jason Bartley, Ben Brown,
Valerie LaFerney, Alexa Luger**

City of Moab's Path to GHG
Emissions Reduction

Advised by: Derek Fehrer

C120 B

The Conservation Alliance

**Nick Taubenheim, Ella
Hinkelman, Sophie Benning**

The Business Case for
Conservation: Elevating the
Strategic Value of Protected
Public Lands & Waters for
Decision-Makers

Advised by: Joel Hartter

N126

Denver Department of Climate Action, Sustainability and Resiliency

Alex Hamann, Claudia Addison

Denver CASR Digital Twin

Advised by: William Shutkin

S372

Town of Nederland

**Gabika Watson, Patrick Giblin,
Garrett Campion**

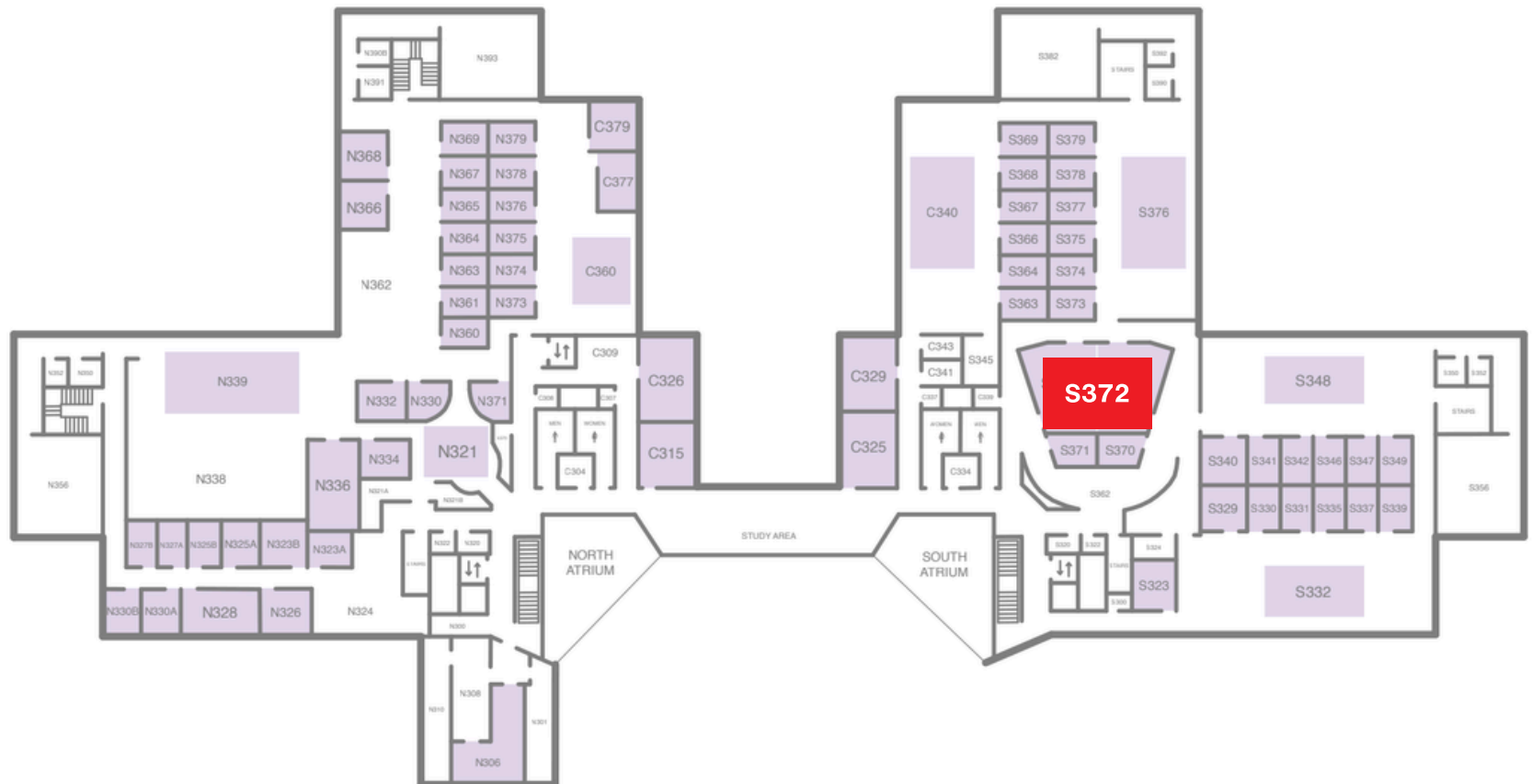
Town of Nederland Resiliency
Action Plan

Advised by: Gregor MacGregor

SEEC Floor 1: Symposium Rooms



SEEC Floor 3: Symposium Rooms



THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR STUDENTS AND MENV PROGRAM!

Inclement Weather/Snow Day Contingency:

In the event of inclement weather closing Campus on Friday, October 30th, 2026, the Capstone Symposium will be held virtually with the same session times. Zoom links will be shared with all registered attendees.



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